

RECOGNITION OF THE 2005 SANTA ROSA COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend congratulations to the Jimmy W. Nelson family for being selected the 2005 Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family. The Nelson family has been involved in farming in Northwest Florida through four generations.

Both Jimmy and his wife Wynell are fourth generation farmers born in Santa Rosa County in my district. Their extensive history with working the land has helped them instill in their children the same love and appreciation of farming. Their son and two daughters helped with the family's farmwork up until the time they went off to college, and they still frequently visit to make sure the family business is still going strong.

Active in farming through all of his school years, Jimmy was also a member of the FFA in high school. In 1967, Jimmy began working as a pilot with Jay Flying Service, which he and his wife Wynell now own. The company has been the longest running crop spraying business in the Jay area, and Jimmy has helped with spraying crops since his first day with the business in addition to farming the 80 acres that he and his wife live on.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my sincere commendation to a family that could serve as a role model to us all. A deep sense of work ethic and values has been instilled through all the generations of the Jimmy W. Nelson family. It is my hope that this family tradition continues for many generations to come.

HONORING ROBERT ATKINSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courageous and heroic efforts of Mr. Robert Atkinson.

On June 25th of 2005, when vacationing at Destin Beach with his wife and two daughters, Mr. Atkinson acted above and beyond the duties of an ordinary citizen. While others ran for safety, he did what many would not think of doing—he jumped into the water while a shark was still in the water.

Mr. Atkinson's instinctive and courageous act was an attempt to save the life of Jamie Daigle, a 14 year old girl from Gonzales, Louisiana. He had put himself in danger's way and risked his own life to save another.

A hero is someone who shows great courage and is to be admired for his achievements and noble qualities. I feel that Mr. Atkinson's act of selflessness and courage is one that we all can admire. Therefore, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize Mr. Robert Atkinson as a hero in the not only the eyes of his daughters and his hometown of Argyle, Texas, but also the 26th District of Texas.

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO HONOR CONSTANTINO BRUMIDI ON THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 202, which will permit the use of the Rotunda for a ceremony honoring Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth. I would like to thank my colleagues, Representative PASCRELL, MICA, and BILIRAKIS, for their efforts in getting this bill to the Floor today.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I am especially proud of Brumidi's Greek heritage. The son of a Greek father and Italian mother, Constantino Brumidi, fled Rome and immigrated to the United States on September 18, 1852. From 1868–1879 as a resident of New York City, Brumidi painted forty-three murals and paintings at St. Stephen's Church which is located in my congressional district.

Brumidi is most famous, however, for his artistic achievements in the U.S. Capitol. "The Apotheosis of George Washington," on the dome in the Rotunda, is one of the highlights of his work here. Although he worked flat on his back on wooden scaffolding through the intense summer temperatures, Brumidi created a masterpiece. Additionally, his artwork can be found in the House of Representatives Chamber, several committee rooms, the President's Room, the Senate Reception Room, and throughout the corridors of the Capitol.

I am thrilled that we are recognizing such an outstanding artist and an important contributor to the history of our Nation. The Capitol Building is truly special because of its beautiful architecture and priceless artistic treasures. Without Brumidi's influence, tours of the Capitol simply would not be as interesting and exciting for our constituents.

I am pleased to see the Hellenic Caucus join with the co-chairs of the Italian American Congressional Delegation in bringing this resolution to the Floor, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

HONORING THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City of Louisville and to congratulate the citizens of this great community for the recent honor bestowed upon them. MONEY magazine and CNN spent months looking for towns across America worthy of being called "Great American Towns." A criterion for the search included a safe, enjoyable environment in which anyone would want to raise their children. Out of more than 1,300 cities eligible for CNN/MONEY's "Best Places to Live 2005," Louisville, Colorado placed fifth.

Louisville is located six miles from Boulder, a dynamic college town home to the University

of Colorado, and just twenty-five miles from Denver, Colorado's metropolitan capital. Louisville started as a coal mining town in the 1880s, and has since grown to be home to some 19,000 residents and 1,700 acres of open space. While the city has undergone significant development from its humble beginnings, it has not forgotten its roots. The city gets much of its charm through the preservation of its history. Main Street is filled with historic buildings giving it an old-time feel, and the Louisville Historical Museum keeps the past alive for generations to come. Despite its nostalgic past, Louisville is forward thinking with a thriving high-tech industry. The combination of small-town history and charm juxtaposed with modern advantages are at the heart of Louisville's success.

Louisville enjoys a low crime rate, strong environmental values, affordable housing prices, and close proximity to the Rocky Mountains—which provide boundless opportunities for outdoor activity including skiing, hiking, and camping.

Parades color Louisville's downtown streets on holidays. Schoolchildren discuss ways to improve the city in Youth Advisory Board meetings. Families watch classic movies in Louisville's picturesque parks. A lively, involved community keeps the city's traditions and a myriad of available activities alive.

I take great pride in representing Louisville, and commend Mayor Chuck Sisk and the city council for their work to ensure a safe and enjoyable community for its citizens. Cities like Louisville instill pride in the officials who govern them and the citizens who inhabit them, and serve to enrich the lives of all who live in them, work in them, or visit them.

FORCED REPATRIATION OF MONTAGNARDS BY CAMBODIA

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday—notwithstanding numerous international humanitarian appeals, including several from Members of Congress and from the Executive Branch—the Government of Cambodia forcibly deported nearly 100 Montagnards to Vietnam, into uncertain circumstances where their well-being is not subject to effective international monitoring. Indeed, credible reporting by established nongovernmental organizations has documented recent cases in which Montagnard returnees were arrested and beaten after their repatriation. From a humanitarian vantage, the repatriation of Montagnard families in these circumstances was unacceptable, and was carried out to the discredit of both Cambodian authorities and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Two months ago, in a letter to UN High Commissioner Wendy Chamberlin, I and my Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] raised the details of this very case, and expressed our deep concerns that this situation "sets a dangerous precedent for refugee protection in Cambodia and elsewhere by lowering the standards for refugee repatriation." I ask that a copy of that May 4, 2005 letter be included in the RECORD. Sadly, the worst-